

Saskatchewan Provincial Emergency Operations Centre

Situation Report

Event: Trucker Freedom Convoy – Saskatchewan Legislative Building Demonstration

Location: Regina

Current as of: February 5th, 2022 19:00 hrs

Notification Type: ☐ Initial ☒ Update ☐ Final

Notification #: 2

Pr-EOC Activation Level: 3b

Current Level	Operational Level Description
	Level 5 – Routine Operation, Local Response/Local or Municipal EOC activated
	Level 4 – Enhanced Operation, District Response/District EOC activated
X	Level 3b – Virtual Operation, Multi District Response (Key Ministries)/Pr-EOC activated
	Level 3a – Full Operation, Multi District Response (All Ministries)/Pr-EOC activated
	Level 2 – Provincial Response/Provincial EOC activated
	Level 1 – National/International Response/Provincial EOC activated

NOTE: Situation Reports are intended “NOT FOR DISTRIBUTION”, unless otherwise specified. If you have questions regarding the information contained in this report, please contact the sender. This situation report has been compiled with information valid at the time indicated above.

IRONMENT

CURRENT SITUATION

- **Weather:** Periods of light snow ending this evening then partly cloudy. 30 percent chance of flurries overnight. Wind northwest 30 km/h becoming light near midnight. Low minus 18. Wind chill minus 28 this evening and minus 21 overnight. Risk of frostbite.
- A Trucker Freedom Convoy is planned to occur at the Saskatchewan Legislature building in Regina, SK on February 5th, 2022 beginning at 13:00 hrs.
- The group is opposed to current COVID-19 mandates, and their intention is to occupy the space until a desirable resolution is reached.
- Various concerns have been raised regarding the occupation of the space, including traffic issues and potential public safety impacts.
- The Frost Festival is running concurrently in Regina from February 4th-10th.
- There is also a counter protest planned to occur in front of the Legislature February 5th.
- Preparation and planning is occurring to address, manage, and mitigate potential public safety impacts.

- Agencies involved are the Regina Police Service, Provincial Capital Commission, Ministry of Government Relations, Ministry of Highways, Ministry of Environment, SaskBuilds and Procurement, and Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency.
- Regina Police Service (RPS) is Incident Command, with on scene commanders to report back to the Command Center, located at RPS Headquarters.
- Regina Emergency Measures Organization (EMO) is not currently activated.

Regina Police Service:

- **Freedom rally/demonstration and the Regina Frost Festival occurring at the Legislative grounds, and possibly other Frost Festival locations.**
- **Regina Police Service Critical Incident Command is overseeing this operation out of RPS Headquarters.**
- **Out of town trucks mustering at Husky East, Coop Albert St South, and a Saskatoon convoy is staged south on Albert St. 9th Ave N.**
- **Approximate 300 people at the Legislative grounds at the peak of today's event , mainly in the area of Albert St/20th Ave.**
- **Crowd was calm – no significant issues.**
- **Approximately 250 vehicles at Husky House, joining with a group from Moose Jaw. Half the group plans to enter the city from South Albert, the other half enter from Wascana Pkwy/Broad St to College Ave.**
- **They intend to create a blockade as long as they are denied access to the Legislative grounds. Communication over truckers radio is that they plan to block right driving lanes and keep left lanes open for emergency vehicles.**
- **Public safety is priority.**
- **Downtown core and Warehouse areas are quiet.**
- **Confederation Park is busy.**
- **Resources:**
 - **6 members monitoring 4 access points (jersey barricaded) to the Legislative grounds**
 - **10 members monitoring traffic flow at major arteries around and leading to the Legislative grounds.**
 - **21 Public Safety Unit members (PSU) on foot at the Legislative grounds.**
 - **2 Ministry of Environment Conservation Officers**
 - **2 Provincial Capital Commission (PCC) members.**
 - **2 drone pilots providing overhead intelligence.**
- **Incident Command Center is up and running.**
- **Utilizing RPS radio system, liaising with Provincial Capital Commission (PCC), Ministry of Highways and Ministry of Environment.**
- **Communication was sent out at 11:00am advising citizens to avoid driving in the Albert, Broad, College to 23rd areas.**
- **RPS's operational plan begins at 21:00 February 4th, with on shift rotation through to Monday morning.**
- **Starting at 21:00, February 4th, 9 RPS members will be onsite at the legislative grounds, controlling entrances.**
- **The number of potential rally participants is unknown and intelligence is spotty at this time.**
- **All resources or manpower arriving on scene must report to RPS communications center or the on-scene command sergeant.**

Provincial Capital Commission:

- **PCC will continue to have one Community Safety Officer (CSO) on site at Hill Street Barricades/entry point through weekend.**
- **Only infrastructure staff, some FROST management and Ministry of Government Relations Media management will be granted access, as well as any MLA's in vehicles.**
- **Volunteers and others are being directed to walk into Legislative Precinct.**
- **Social media live feed from 14:30 hrs indicated protestors won't remove barricades as they do not want to risk charges.**
- **Ministry of Environment and Saskatchewan Highway Patrol are assisting to construct and man barricades along Legislature Drive and at 2 intersections on Albert Street.**
- **Some of the plastic barricades have been damaged or destroyed by unknown persons.**
- **2 Community Safety Officers (CSO's) are on shift; one overnight February 4th, and one to come on shift at 09:00 February 5th.**

Corrections, Policing and Public Safety

- **Continuing to monitor situation.**

Ministry of Environment:

- **Conservation Officers providing resources, throughout the weekend to help protect the grounds of the Legislature Building, and ensure public safety.**
- **Two officers on duty Saturday, Feb. 5, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. to man one of the six barricades on site.**
- **A second team of two officers will be on duty Sunday, Feb. 6, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.**
- **As of 1 p.m. Saturday, officers have reported no activity related to the freedom convoy.**
- **Nothing planned past Sunday, but available to assist should additional resources be required.**

SaskBuilds and Procurement:

- **Have some concerned staff who were working when protestors showed up as the barricades were being set up.**
- **Offering use of on-site Powerhouse to any of the agencies present who require access to the facility.**

Ministry of Government Relations Communications:

- **Will be on scene at Wascana Center through the day to manage media.**
- **Media are asking to go through barricades, are being directed to park and walk in.**
- **GR Communications to be contacted should any media show up.**
- **Coordinating communications for this event.**
- **Media has largely been focusing on the pursuit of public safety for the Frost Festival, and not infringing on protesting rights.**
- **News release went out at 11:00 February 4th, and there are no other plans for further communications at this time.**
- **Concerns raised regarding access from ministry staff who need to work over the weekend, or Monday.**
- **Will monitor the need for internal communications, advising staff not to confront protestors on Monday.**

- Will advise if communications support is required from SPSA, should things escalate.
- Don't want to discourage people from attending the area as there is a festival going on, but will communicate any delays.

Ministry of Highways Communications:

- Can assist with any information needs such as traffic impacts on major routes etc, as they have a good sized social media following, signage, etc..

CRITICAL ISSUES/CHALLENGES/PROBLEMS

Regina Police Service:

- **Numbers of people are currently manageable at the Legislature (approx. 300) as seen from drone photos. No major traffic concerns reported at this time.**
- **Convoys organizing to block the right driving lanes of a loop north on Albert, east on College, south on Broad St and west on 23rd Ave (single lane traffic), back to Albert St. Left driving lane to be left open for emergency vehicles.**
- **Members are monitoring and developing a traffic plan.**
- If protest trucks show up and are unable to get into the legislature grounds, they may designate another location to protest. RPS may need to reach out for assistance if it escalates too much.

Provincial Capital Commission:

- **Monitoring Hill Avenue for protest traffic.**
- **Emergency Vehicles access (EMS/Fire/Police) to Leg Building, Walter Scott building into coming week if protest continues.**
- **Emergency and public vehicle access through park from Hill Avenue to Lakeshore Drive to Broad Street unless decision made to curtail that access for duration of protest.**
- **CSO staff will need time off; unable to sustain a prolonged situation; noted for future planning should protest continue past weekend.**
- Protestors have threatened to move concrete barricades with chains and trucks.
- This will be closely monitored.

Ministry of Environment

- **Additional resources can be made available upon request.**

SaskBuilds and Procurement

- Concerns regarding traffic needing to come in and out of Legislative Building over the weekend, which could become an issue with the protestors present.
- Staff are worried about access to the grounds Monday.

SERVICE/STAKEHOLDER IMPACTS

Provincial Capital Commission

- Gov of Sask Staff for Legislative Building, Maintenance, Powerhouse and Walter Scott building impacted and may continue to be impacted into the coming week depending on the situation.
- Maintenance Enforcement may advise clients to attend from across Albert Street.

ANTICIPATED PRIORITIES

Provincial Capital Commission

- Continued safety for all officers and public in area.

Ministry of Environment

- Maintain a uniformed presence at one of the six barricades/entry points to the Legislature grounds.
- Continue to maintain and ensure public safety.

Regina Police Service

- On scene command to set up on-scene the morning of February 5th.
- An interoperability channel will be selected and announced, once incident command is on scene.
- At 12:00 February 5th, 21 crowd control members and 8 traffic control members will be on scene at the legislature grounds and other sites where the Frost Festival is occurring to deal with any congestion issues that may come up.

Corrections, Policing, and Public Safety

- Currently working on getting Safer Communities and Neighborhoods (SCAN) members additional authorities so they can be utilized. Use of SCAN members would likely be activated for operations beyond the weekend.

PLANNED ACTIVITIES

Regina Police Service

- Crowd and traffic management.

Provincial Capital Commission

- Scheduling into next week based on needs and resource availability.

Ministry of Environment

- The Conservation Officer service will provide resources through the weekend; if the protest extends into next week, plans will be put in place to support the operation for as long as required.

Ministry of Corrections, Policing, and Public Safety

- **Safer Communities and Neighborhoods Special Constable Appointment** being updated to allow enforcement of non-core responsibility statutes. Can currently enforce The Safer Communities and Neighborhoods Act, The Witness Protection Act and The Civil Forfeiture Act, 2009.

MEDIA

Map of barricade locations provided by Ministry of Government Relations Communications

